



SOQUEL  
DEMONSTRATION  
STATE FOREST



# Sudden Oak Death (SOD)

## *Phytophthora ramorum*

**What is SOD?** An invasive fungus-like disease that is killing tanoaks and other oak tree species throughout the coastal California (Del Norte to San Luis Obispo County). The leaves of Bay laurel trees act as hosts for SOD.

**Where can SOD be found in the forest?** Wet or moist climates, cool temperatures and living plants. The spores can be found in soil, water, and plant material. SOD is prevalent within SDSF, State Parks, and other recreational areas in Santa Cruz County.

**How is SOD spread?** Spores are dispersed via moist air currents.

They can spread long distances by human means including: planting of infected nursery plants, movement of soil, and transportation of infected plant matter.

### Spore

A tiny, one-celled organism that is the reproductive body for fungi, molds, ferns, and some plants

### Symptoms of SOD



Leaves dying on a tanoak due to disease



Black tips of Bay laurel leaves due to disease



Bleeding cankers on tree

### Prevent the Spread of SOD

- Clean soil and plant material from shoes, clothes, tools, animal paws, gear
- Don't move plant material (i.e. firewood, plant cuttings) out of infected counties
- Sanitize your gear with disinfectant before your next trip